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Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 55 NUMBER 13

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

LATE NEWS

Cotton imports into China in August totaled 156,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) including 98,000 from the United States, 45,000 from India and 13,000 from Brazil.

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The 1946-47 cotton crop in the Belgian Congo is estimated at 179,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), including 6,000 for Ruanda Urundi. Exports during the year ended July 31, 1947 totaled 202,000 bales and local consumption 26,000, about 5,000 of which were imported from French Equatorial Africa. Stocks (mid-season in the Belgian Congo) on hand August 1, 1946 were estimated at 195,000 bales and 151,000 bales a year later. The latter figure included about 92,000 bales of old-crop cotton.

- - - -

Egypt's 1947 cotton crop is estimated by private sources at about 1,445,000 bales (500 pound-equivalent) compared with last year's final official estimate of 1,252,000 bales. The first official report for 1947 placed the planted area at 1,302,000 acres. The 1947 production estimate mentioned above includes 1,073,000 bales of Ashmouni and Zagora, 310,000 of Karnak, 14,000 of Menoufi and 21,000 of Giza 30, a new variety with an average staple length of about 1 1/4 inches. Local consumption in 1946-47 amounted to 218,000 bales.

- - - -

Imports of cotton into Chile during the year ended July 31, 1947 totaled 59,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) compared with 51,000 for 1945-46. The 1946-47 total included 47,000 bales from Peru, 8,000 from Brazil and 3,000 from Argentina. Mill consumption amounted to 59,000 bales and stocks of 9,000 bales were the same as a year ago.

WORLD OATS AND BARLEY CROPS BELOW AVERAGE

World production of barley and oats in 1947 is estimated to be about 6 percent below average, according to information available in the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. This year's oats production, estimated at 4,120 million bushels is 3 percent below the 1946 crop of 4,245 million bushels, while barley at 2,220 million is about 5 percent larger than in 1946.

The smaller oats harvest is due to the sharp drop in North America's outturn. The barley crop is moderately above that of a year ago in most areas of the Northern Hemisphere. In the Southern Hemisphere, the harvest will not begin until the latter part of 1947, and production forecasts are based on the assumption of average yields.

Production of both oats and barley continued much below average in Europe, with totals only slightly larger than the small 1946 crop. The below-average crop will preclude the contribution of much relief to the European bread grain shortage, which might have been possible with good crops, since barley is being used in the bread to some extent in parts of the Continent. Export possibilities from North America are limited this year by significant reductions in coarse grains in both Canada and the United States, particularly in oats. The sharply reduced corn crop in the United States will also affect the quantity of these grains available for export.

The principal remaining source for coarse grains is Argentina. Exports from that country for the remainder of 1947 will be from the near-average oats crop and record barley crop harvested last December-January. It is too early in the season to have a good indication of what may be expected in the way of surpluses of these grains from the next harvest, which will begin generally in December.

In North America the oats crop was much below the 1946 level and barley slightly larger than a year ago. The United States production of oats, reported at 1,227 million bushels, was about 20 percent below the 1946 crop, though still somewhat larger than the average of 1,045 million in 1935-39. Both acreage and yields were significantly smaller than in 1946, but larger than average. Barley production, at 286 million bushels, is slightly larger than in 1946 and well above average, because of increased acreage and yields.

Oats production in Canada is reported at 288 million bushels, the smallest oats harvest of recent years, and only 72 percent of the 1946 crop. Both acreage and yields were smaller than in 1946 and acreage was somewhat smaller than average. Canadian barley was only slightly below the 1946 production and considerably above average. Canada's greatly reduced crop of oats and moderately smaller barley crop, together with the reduced carryover stocks, result in available supplies little larger than domestic requirements. Canada's exports of oats, including oatmeal and rolled oats, amounted to about 35 million bushels for tha year ended July 31, 1947. During the same period, barley exports were about 7 million bushels. For the current crop year, however, few export permits are to be granted; those granted to cover mainly products of the two grains.

(Text continued on page 207; Tables follow:)

BARLEY: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1935-39, annual 1945-47 a/

Continent and country	Acreage b/				Yield per acre c/				Production			
	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada	4,291	7,350	6,258	7,441	20.7	21.5	25.5	20.3	88,882	157,757	159,887	151,225
Mexico	374	420	457	482	10.1	12.6	13.2	13.3	3,778	5,273	6,017	6,430
United States	10,817	10,465	10,477	11,082	22.1	25.5	25.1	25.8	238,622	266,833	263,350	285,919
Estimated total e/	15,490	18,240	17,200	19,010	-	-	-	-	331,400	429,900	429,400	443,600
Europe:												
Austria	411	259	310	300	32.5	21.3	20.0	20.7	13,338	5,511	6,200	6,200
Belgium	74	180	170	210	48.2	36.1	47.6	38.1	3,570	6,500	8,100	8,000
Bulgaria	f/ 535	421	554	635	f/ 28.4	11.9	23.5	21.3	f/ 15,168	5,000	13,000	13,500
Czechoslovakia	g/ 1,600	-	1,420	1,450	g/ 32.4	-	28.2	-	g/ 51,800	-	40,000	-
Denmark	946	1,007	1,040	1,110	55.9	57.4	61.2	56.7	52,881	57,825	63,695	62,923
Eire	118	170	144	146	45.9	41.1	41.7	42.5	5,413	6,995	6,000	6,200
Finland	280	341	344	330	28.2	22.0	23.3	24.2	7,900	7,500	8,000	8,000
France	1,897	1,680	1,806	2,232	27.9	20.5	27.0	24.6	53,015	34,500	48,823	55,000
Germany	3,120	-	-	-	41.7	-	-	-	130,000	-	-	-
Greece	511	338	405	447	18.1	12.7	18.1	13.9	9,267	4,300	7,350	6,200
Hungary	1,163	1,388	1,275	1,300	25.9	15.9	14.6	19.2	30,178	22,138	18,661	25,000
Italy	480	589	589	610	20.8	11.5	20.4	16.9	10,000	6,800	12,000	10,335
Netherlands	107	118	153	170	53.1	36.1	52.9	50.0	5,683	4,260	8,100	8,500
Norway	143	102	100	99	38.2	36.3	40.5	37.4	5,467	3,705	4,046	3,700
Poland	2,570	-	-	-	29.6	-	-	-	76,000	-	-	-
Portugal	175	305	305	310	10.2	7.3	15.9	11.9	1,783	2,217	4,837	3,700
Rumania	2,030	-	-	-	13.8	-	-	-	28,000	-	-	-
Spain	h/ 4,549	3,765	3,674	3,700	h/ 21.3	8.8	23.9	23.0	h/ 97,059	33,000	87,876	85,000
Sweden	252	231	221	245	39.5	33.6	38.4	35.6	9,951	7,751	8,487	8,730
Switzerland	13	78	75	74	33.1	44.5	42.7	40.5	430	3,472	3,200	3,000
United Kingdom	934	2,215	2,211	2,063	39.2	44.4	41.4	38.0	36,596	98,373	91,607	78,307
Yugoslavia	1,045	-	-	-	18.0	-	-	-	18,800	-	-	-
Estimated total e/	22,980	21,020	21,400	22,750	-	-	-	-	663,000	484,000	585,000	592,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	26,600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Asia:												
Iran	g/ 1,545	1,750	1,750	-	g/23.1	32.8	32.5	-	g/ 35,728	57,411	56,952	51,211
Iraq	g/ 1,934	2,008	2,000	2,100	g/14.8	14.9	14.2	14.2	31,677	29,854	28,476	29,854
Lebanon	1/	50	55	-	1/	24.4	26.7	-	1/	1,222	1,470	919
Palestine	571	577	-	-	5.7	6.0	-	-	3,238	3,440	2,943	-
Syria	i/ 793	860	916	-	i/19.4	13.2	14.2	-	i/ 15,386	11,370	12,970	-
Turkey	4,592	4,090	4,018	-	20.9	10.5	21.2	-	96,129	42,912	85,000	68,700
China	g/16,000	15,000	15,000	14,233	g/21.7	19.7	19.3	22.3	g/ 347,000	295,000	289,000	317,113
Manchuria	g/ 222	251	-	-	g/29.1	14.7	-	-	g/ 6,462	3,690	-	-
India	7,208	7,561	7,658	-	16.4	16.2	14.7	-	118,356	122,733	112,747	111,000
Japan	1,891	2,200	1,930	1,836	34.6	23.2	18.5	25.8	65,436	51,000	35,723	47,325
Korea	2,674	-	-	-	19.5	-	-	-	52,096	-	-	-
Estimated total e/	37,690	37,140	36,430	36,170	-	-	-	-	776,000	673,000	669,000	688,000
South America:												
Argentina	1,286	1,739	2,568	-	17.6	22.1	20.9	-	22,586	38,378	53,783	-
Chile	184	111	147	148	27.4	31.0	30.9	-	5,041	3,446	4,541	-
Uruguay	44	60	46	-	14.8	12.5	11.4	-	649	748	526	-
Estimated total e/	1,950	2,390	3,210	3,250	-	-	-	-	36,000	52,000	66,000	58,000
Africa:												
Algeria	3,051	2,375	1,725	2,125	10.9	3.0	17.7	8.9	33,132	7,100	30,500	19,000
Egypt	276	372	254	257	38.8	32.3	32.1	30.5	10,697	12,015	8,157	7,826
French Morocco	4,448	3,875	2,300	3,850	12.0	2.3	13.4	15.1	53,279	9,000	30,800	58,000
Tunisia	1,182	1,236	1,203	1,000	7.7	4.3	6.0	5.0	9,048	5,282	7,165	5,000
Union of South Africa	g/ 79	150	140	-	g/18.4	12.6	13.6	-	1,451	1,884	1,909	-
Estimated total e/	10,280	9,400	6,930	8,720	-	-	-	-	121,000	45,000	92,000	104,000
Oceania:												
Australia	648	700	875	-	18.0	16.5	13.8	-	11,651	11,580	12,083	-
New Zealand	24	49	45	-	39.7	39.8	46.3	-	952	1,950	2,083	-
Total	672	749	920	-	-	-	-	-	12,603	13,530	14,166	-
Estimated world total e/	115,690	108,100	106,200	111,520	-	-	-	-	2,363,000	1,967,000	2,121,000	2,220,000

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries, except as noted.

a/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1947 is combined with estimates for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which will begin late in 1947 and end early in 1948.

b/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible.

c/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown.

d/ Preliminary estimates in Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date.

e/ Estimated totals include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown.

f/ Estimate not adjusted to take account of inclusion of Southern Dobrudja and is, therefore, not strictly comparable with estimates shown for later years.

g/ Average of less than 5 years.

h/ Figure for 1935 only.

i/ Estimates for Syria and Lebanon not shown separately during this period.

OATS: Acreage, yield per acre, and production in specified countries, year of harvest, average 1935-39, annual 1945-47 a/

Continent and country	Acreage b/				Yield per acre c/				Production			
	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/	Average 1935-39	1945	1946	1947 d/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:												
Canada e/	13,246	14,393	12,075	11,150	25.5	26.5	33.1	25.9	338,071	381,596	400,069	288,249
Mexico	29	81	82	99	16.0	18.5	18.5	22.3	465	1,496	1,516	2,205
United States	35,761	41,933	43,648	38,853	29.2	36.6	34.6	31.6	1,045,329	1,535,676	1,509,867	1,226,792
Estimated total f/	49,040	56,410	55,810	50,100	-	-	-	-	1,384,000	1,919,000	1,911,000	1,517,000
Europe:												
Austria	691	481	530	555	41.8	29.4	29.2	31.0	28,865	14,120	15,500	17,200
Belgium	548	460	515	625	74.7	65.2	79.6	71.2	40,946	30,000	41,000	44,500
Bulgaria	g/ 313	357	415	410	g/25.5	9.8	19.3	18.3	g/ 7,966	3,500	8,000	7,500
Czechoslovakia	1,830	-	1,484	1,550	46.4	-	39.1	-	85,000	-	58,000	-
Denmark	932	830	855	890	75.3	82.6	87.5	69.7	70,205	68,536	74,777	62,000
Eire	571	834	831	822	68.8	60.9	48.1	54.7	39,265	50,803	40,000	45,000
Finland	1,030	762	793	815	43.7	29.9	30.3	35.5	45,000	22,775	24,000	28,900
France	8,089	5,856	6,200	6,670	40.6	32.1	41.9	38.2	328,653	187,804	259,762	255,000
Germany	5,200	-	-	-	60.6	-	-	-	315,000	-	-	-
Greece	346	269	257	312	24.5	13.8	27.2	16.0	8,479	3,720	7,000	5,000
Hungary	558	522	519	565	35.9	22.6	24.0	24.8	20,042	11,781	12,465	14,000
Italy	1,063	1,073	1,095	1,166	36.1	22.4	29.0	27.9	38,360	24,000	31,760	32,500
Luxembourg	65	52	54	57	44.8	43.1	47.9	42.1	2,910	2,239	2,589	2,400
Netherlands	357	365	438	400	70.9	47.6	66.8	63.8	25,314	17,385	29,266	25,500
Norway	212	211	206	210	61.0	49.2	59.3	55.7	12,940	10,382	12,208	11,700
Poland	4,900	-	-	-	41.6	-	-	-	204,000	-	-	-
Portugal	607	731	627	675	10.8	6.7	20.2	10.4	6,555	4,911	12,657	7,019
Rumania	1,620	-	-	-	23.1	-	-	-	37,500	-	-	-
Spain	h/ 1,848	1,637	1,587	1,600	h/21.3	12.6	26.9	25.0	h/ 39,369	20,700	42,666	40,000
Sweden	1,641	1,341	1,315	1,420	53.1	38.8	39.7	38.8	87,198	52,008	52,230	55,110
Switzerland	28	109	99	99	56.9	69.4	65.7	55.6	1,593	7,565	6,500	5,500
United Kingdom	2,431	3,753	3,567	3,328	57.0	60.5	57.0	53.6	138,628	227,150	203,210	178,290
Yugoslavia	893	-	-	-	24.5	-	-	-	21,900	-	-	-
Estimated total f/	35,800	31,300	32,140	33,640	-	-	-	-	1,606,000	1,170,000	1,302,000	1,318,000
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	49,400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Asia:												
Syria i/	24	-	-	-	27.6	-	-	-	662	-	-	-
Turkey	636	648	644	737	26.6	12.9	25.6	18.7	16,893	8,374	16,500	13,800
China	j/ 2,582	-	2,250	2,226	j/23.4	-	19.8	25.1	j/ 60,317	-	44,461	55,980
Japan	310	-	-	-	37.0	-	-	-	11,481	-	-	-
Korea	j/ 242	-	-	-	j/11.2	-	-	-	j/ 2,718	-	-	-
South America:												
Argentina	1,974	1,830	2,215	-	25.4	30.0	21.3	-	50,182	54,881	47,158	-
Chile	279	198	207	237	27.5	29.2	22.4	-	7,670	5,787	4,641	-
Uruguay	213	177	107	-	14.6	14.6	13.2	-	3,100	2,590	1,410	-
Africa:												
Algeria	465	538	324	400	23.4	6.5	27.8	-	10,859	3,500	9,000	-
French Morocco	104	108	53	96	26.5	5.1	38.2	-	2,751	551	2,025	-
Tunisia	84	86	75	-	19.9	10.6	16.0	-	1,674	909	1,200	-
Union of South Africa	j/ 544	900	925	-	j/13.3	10.1	8.9	-	6,966	9,121	8,236	-
Oceania:												
Australia	1,593	1,949	1,740	-	14.7	16.5	11.1	-	23,351	32,218	19,312	-
New Zealand	63	57	43	-	56.2	61.3	58.1	-	3,539	3,496	2,500	-
Estimated world total f/	143,600	142,400	144,400	140,700	-	-	-	-	4,363,000	4,188,000	4,245,000	4,120,000

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers, results of office research, or other information. Prewar estimates for countries having changed boundaries have been adjusted to conform to present boundaries, except as noted.

a/ Years shown refer to years of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Harvests of Northern Hemisphere countries are combined with those of the Southern Hemisphere which immediately follow; thus, the crop harvested in the Northern Hemisphere in 1947 is combined with estimates for the Southern Hemisphere harvest which will begin late in 1947 and end early in 1948.

b/ Figures refer to harvested areas as far as possible.

c/ Yield per acre calculated from acreage and production data shown.

d/ Preliminary estimates in Northern Hemisphere countries; for Southern Hemisphere preliminary forecasts based largely on acreage and weather conditions to date.

e/ Production and yield reported in bushels of 34 pounds.

f/ Estimated totals include allowances for any missing data for countries shown and for other producing countries not shown.

g/ Estimate not adjusted to take account of inclusion of Southern Dubrudja and is, therefore, not strictly comparable with estimates shown for later years.

h/ Figure for 1935 only.

i/ Includes estimate for Lebanon.

j/ Average of less than 5 years.

WORLD OATS AND BARLEY SUMMARY

(Continued from Page 202)

European production of feed grains is estimated to be somewhat below average, though slightly larger than the small 1946 crop. Present estimates for Europe exclude territory acquired by the U.S.S.R., for all periods shown. Production within current boundaries is estimated at about 1,320 million bushels of oats and 590 million bushels of barley. Yields were generally lower than in 1946 in western Europe, where drought and excessive heat were adverse factors. Unfavorable spring weather conditions, which curtailed seeding operations also contributed to the reduced outturn in some countries. For western Europe as a whole, however, acreage sown to these grains was larger than in 1946, since much of the area lost to bread grains from extensive winterkill was reseeded to spring barley and oats. In parts of central Europe yields compared favorably with those for 1946.

Conditions varied widely in the Balkan area, with best conditions reported for Rumania and Hungary where yields were better than in 1946, though still well below average. Largest reductions are reported for Greece and Bulgaria, with yields somewhat lower than a year ago.

Production in the United Kingdom was somewhat smaller than last year's crop though well above average. Expansion in feed grain acreage during the war years was considerable and while not as large as in 1946, acreage of these grains was still substantially above average. Yields, however, were smaller than a year ago, as a result of unfavorable weather. Generally favorable conditions were reported for Eire, and both yields and total production were larger than in 1946, though yields of oats still were considerably lower than yields during 1935-39.

Scandinavian countries report below-average yields as well as smaller than in 1946, especially in Denmark. Increased acreage, however, partly offset the reduced yields.

Favorable conditions are reported for the U.S.S.R., and production of both barley and oats is estimated to be well above the 1946 crop. The larger gain is estimated in the outturn of oats. The increase is attributed mainly to higher yields, this year's weather having been more favorable than a year ago.

Production of barley in Asia was still below average, though there was some increase compared with 1946. Increases in China and Japan more than offset reductions in other areas. Chinese yields show a good increase, which more than balances the reduced acreage reported. Japan's acreage was also curtailed but yields were up considerably. Production in India was almost up to the 1946 figure. Production in other areas was down, especially in the Near East countries where drought reduced yields considerably. In Iraq, where some surplus is exported, normally, the crop is estimated to be only 5 percent below average. Production of oats in Asia is comparatively unimportant, China's production being the only one of any size. The crop of 56 million bushels there was about 25 percent larger than in 1946, but still below average.

South America's coarse grain crops are grown principally in Argentina. No estimates of sown acreage for the current season have been released. There is, therefore, no good basis for making a forecast of the crop. If acreage remained near the 1946 level and average yields were obtained, the barley crop would be smaller than a year ago when yields were significantly above average. Yields of oats last year, in contrast, were below average.

Production in Africa is estimated to be slightly larger than a year ago, though not up to average. Most of the increase for barley occurred in French Morocco, where a large increase in acreage accompanied by some increase in yields resulted in a harvest almost 90 percent larger than in 1946. Yields in Algeria, the next country of importance in production of barley, were considerably smaller than they were last year principally because of drought. Production there, as a result, was only about 62 percent of the 1946 outturn, despite a good increase in acreage.

Australian production is expected to be larger than a year ago. Reported increases in seedings and favorable weather to date indicate prospects of an above-average harvest for both barley and oats.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, R. L. Gastineau, Judith E. Downey, Lois E. Bacon, and Lazar Volin.

WORLD APPLE CROP SLIGHTLY BELOW 1946, PEAR CROP LARGER

Preliminary estimates indicate an apple crop of 411 million bushels and pear production totaling 139 million bushels in major producing countries of the World for the 1947-48 season.

The current estimate of apple production is slightly lower than the 1946-47 crop of 425 million bushels and 20 percent below the prewar (1935-39) average of 512 million bushels. The estimate of the 1947-48 pear crop is somewhat larger than the 1946-47 production of 133 million and the prewar average of 130 million bushels. Production of both fruits has been affected adversely by drought conditions in Central and Western Europe and in the Midwestern portion of the United States, and by spring frosts in the eastern United States, Turkey, and southeastern Europe.

Apples

North America-- The 1947-48 apple crop in North America is estimated at 132 million bushels, about 6 percent below the 1946-47 crop of 141 million bushels. Commercial production in the United States, estimated at 113 million bushels, is about 5 percent below last season's crop of 119 million. The Canadian crop estimate of nearly 17 million (including an estimated 1 million bushels for processing in British Columbia in addition to the fresh pack of 7.8 million expected in that Province) is over 2 million bushels below the 1946-47 record crop which exceeded 19 million bushels.

Europe--(excluding U.S.S.R.) European countries are expected to produce a total of 239 million bushels in 1947-48, about 4 percent less than the previous season's crop of 250 million bushels and 32 percent below the prewar (1935-39) average of 333 million. Excluding cider apple production in France, the United Kingdom and Luxembourg, however, the 1947-48 estimate of 181 million bushels exceeds slightly the 176 million prewar average and total of last season's crop.

The record crop of about 25 million bushels expected in the United Kingdom (including North Ireland) this season exceeds the total of the United Kingdom's prewar average production of dessert and cooking apples (10.6 million bushels) plus the prewar average imports (13.6 million bushels).

Drought and excessive summer temperatures have affected production in Central and Western Europe this season but despite this fact record crops are reported also in the Netherlands and Belgium. Excessive wastage is feared due to an expected shortage of harvest labor and of containers in the United Kingdom and because of a shortage of adequate storage facilities there and in Belgium and the Netherlands.

The 1947-48 crop in Germany is expected to be about 80 percent larger than the short crop of last season despite the drought in that country. Shorter crops are expected in Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway due, in part, to drought effects.

In France, where spring frosts reduced fruit set and summer heat and drought cut fruit size, the cider apple crop is below that of 1946, but the crop of dessert and cooking varieties is slightly above that of last season. In Switzerland and Austria, the bumper harvests of 1946 were followed by lighter blossoming and shorter crops in 1947.

Asia-- Asiatic countries (including the four major producing Provinces of China) expect a crop of 12.6 million bushels, about 29 percent below the 1946-47 crop of 17.7 million and 33 percent less than the prewar average of 18.7 million bushels.

Southern Hemisphere Countries-- Spring is just beginning in the major apple producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere and blossoms have not yet opened, so crop forecasts must be based upon a knowledge of factors which affect the differentiation and development of fruit buds. Following light crops in Australia, New Zealand and Argentina during the 1946-47 season heavy blossoming is expected this fall and, barring spring frosts or other unexpected causes, large crops are expected in those countries during the 1947-48 season. Although fair to good production was obtained in South Africa and Chile during the past season, tree vigor and bud set are believed to be such that crops slightly larger than those harvested in the 1946-47 season can be expected this season.

United States Trade Outlook-- During 1946-47 (season beginning July 1) the United States exported 5.2 million bushels of apples, 58 percent of the prewar (1935-39) average of 9 million bushels. Of the United States exports, the United Kingdom imported 1,707,000, Sweden 816,000, Belgium and Luxembourg 373,000, and the Netherlands 46,000 bushels. The United Kingdom also purchased from Canada 4.5 million bushels of fresh

(Text Continued on Page 214; Tables Follow:)

APPLES AND PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1944-47

Apples

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
North America:						
Canada	14,560	13,459	17,829	7,635	19,282	16,700
Mexico	1,231	1,831	1,790	1,856	2,113	2,251
United States	127,311	115,306	124,754	66,796	119,410	113,079
Total	143,102	130,596	144,373	76,287	140,805	132,030
Europe: b/						
Austria	13,386	8,809	13,908	10,000	28,449	15,000
Belgium	1,200	4,700	5,000	5,511	2,296	10,000
Bulgaria	c/ 1,064	3,556	4,919	3,569	2,900	3,500
Czechoslovakia	c/ 9,034	4,401	5,094	2,642	5,000	4,000
Denmark	c/ 3,300	4,593	5,190	4,409	7,440	6,000
Estonia	1,563	1,494	1,710	1,470	1,800	1,400
Finland	c/ 1,023	1,187	1,120	1,075	1,750	1,100
France						
Dessert and Cooking	10,499	9,109	18,958	8,471	12,276	12,677
Cider	153,973	114,061	280,831	75,000	68,387	54,152
Germany	50,015	43,138	43,173	35,000	22,000	40,000
Greece	374	370	350	446	964	1,000
Hungary	c/ 2,531	1,148	1,330	689	919	1,148
Italy	13,107	15,010	14,701	13,705	13,641	14,238
Luxembourg						
Dessert and Cooking	193	350	710	260	300	250
Cider	93	124	310	130	150	150
Netherlands	c/ 3,631	c/ 4,048	4,100	3,600	5,200	8,267
Norway	1,080	798	468	311	1,495	1,000
Rumania	c/22,400	17,000	19,700	10,200	6,935	10,000
Spain	c/ 5,411	6,603	8,125	5,000	4,500	3,500
Sweden	2,000	2,006	2,401	2,000	2,300	2,000
Switzerland	16,452	25,353	32,150	11,941	30,000	13,600
United Kingdom						
Dessert and Cooking	10,597	13,831	15,675	12,073	16,970	25,000
Cider	3,427	3,256	6,146	1,330	5,997	3,400
Yugoslavia	6,913	10,480	9,400	8,151		
Total d/	333,266	295,425	495,469	216,983	250,396	239,093
Total (excluding Cider d/)	175,773	177,984	208,182	140,523	175,862	181,391
Asia:						
Asia Minor:						
Lebanon	e/	c/ 229	487	597	650	700
Palestine	65	134	150	226	230	225
Syria	f/ 138	117	280	257	300	350
Turkey	5,126	3,773	3,514	4,096	5,167	2,500
Asia Major:						
China (4 Provinces)	2,500	2,400	2,500	2,000	2,200	2,000
Japan proper	7,624	10,372	8,262	4,807	5,821	4,309
Korea	3,220	5,469	4,500	2,700	3,300	2,500
Total	18,673	22,494	19,693	14,683	17,668	12,584

APPLES AND PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1944-47

Apples

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
South America:						
Argentina	1,400	6,135	8,478	8,162	5,041	9,000
Chile	1,025	591	600	575	700	750
Total	2,425	6,726	9,078	8,737	5,741	9,750
Africa:						
Union of South Africa	950	1,034	729	750	833	900
Oceania:						
Australia	10,435	11,508	10,468	14,164	7,750	14,000
New Zealand	2,961	2,309	2,111	2,810	2,094	2,700
Total	13,396	13,817	12,579	16,974	9,844	16,700
World total	511,812	470,092	681,921	334,414	425,287	411,057
World total (excluding Cider)	354,319	352,651	394,634	257,954	350,753	353,355

Pears

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
North America:						
Canada	569	733	894	600	951	915
Mexico	331	508	580	601	661	705
United States	28,693	29,312	31,956	33,042	34,447	34,583
Total	29,593	30,553	33,430	34,243	36,059	36,203
Europe: b/						
Austria	c/ 6,366	c/ 4,269	8,514	3,500	9,714	7,000
Belgium	2,000	2,200	1,500	4,409	1,323	6,614
Bulgaria	c/ 580	1,637	2,222	1,684	2,600	3,000
Czechoslovakia	c/ 3,866	701	1,086	496	900	800
Denmark	c/ 450	776	1,102	617	926	850
France						
Dessert and Cooking	1,760	2,888	4,762	3,454	5,756	6,001
Cider	21,776	13,267	43,888	3,486	10,687	8,462
Germany	15,984	15,686	22,701	15,400	9,400	14,000
Greece	c/ 865	850	1,000	1,000	1,168	1,200
Hungary	742	500	500	238	353	794
Italy	8,944	9,620	11,010	10,004	10,582	10,450
Luxembourg	100	111	212	83	147	125
Netherlands	c/ 1,488	c/ 2,500	2,200	3,400	3,200	6,614
Norway	174	137	131	148	299	225
Rumania	c/ 4,126	c/ 2,100	2,100	1,750	1,940	2,500
Spain	c/ 3,057	2,787	2,950	2,500	2,000	2,000
Switzerland	7,037	12,654	16,314	8,818	14,697	10,000
United Kingdom						
Dessert and cooking	782	1,338	1,053	1,474	1,030	1,680
Cider	237	349	515	251	430	358
Yugoslavia	2,685	4,500	3,500	3,412		
Total d/	83,019	78,870	127,260	66,124	80,327	85,673
Total (excluding Cider) d/	61,006	65,254	82,857	62,387	69,210	76,853

APPLES AND PEARS: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1944-47

Pears

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Asia:						
Asia Minor:						
Lebanon	e/	c/ 71	251	309	400	400
Palestine	16	c/ 10	10	15	15	15
Syria	f/ 31	28	57	53	66	70
Turkey	3,315	2,776	2,584	3,197	3,651	1,800
Asia Major:						
Japan	7,366	6,516	4,309	4,113	3,942	3,700
Korea	775	785	519	495	474	425
Total	11,503	10,186	7,730	8,182	8,548	6,410
South America:						
Argentina	2,443	5,332	5,186	6,063	4,184	6,000
Chile	c/ 105	58	100	100	110	120
Total	2,548	5,390	5,286	6,163	4,294	6,120
Africa:						
Union of South Africa	600	c/ 689	760	400	600	650
Oceania:						
Australia	2,467	2,714	2,922	2,673	2,800	3,200
New Zealand	328	352	365	375	380	400
Total	2,795	3,066	3,287	3,048	3,180	3,600
World total	130,058	128,754	177,753	118,160	133,008	138,656
World total (excluding Cider)	108,045	115,138	133,350	114,423	121,891	129,836

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officer's, results of office research and other information. Harvests in Northern Hemisphere countries are for the year shown and are combined with the harvest in Southern Hemisphere countries of the following year.

Estimates in original units of approximately 1 bushel in the following countries: Australia, Canada, Chile, United States and New Zealand. In other countries original estimates, mostly in metric tons, converted to bushels of 48 lbs. for apples and 50 lbs. for pears.

a/ Preliminary

b/ Estimates for each country have been revised to coincide with present boundaries except as noted

c/ Partly estimated.

d/ Estimated totals include allowance for missing data for countries shown.

e/ Included in Syria.

f/ Includes Lebanon.

WORLD COTTON SUPPLY SMALLER

A preliminary survey of the world supply of cotton for 1947-48 indicates a total of 43.2 million bales made up of August 1 stocks of 17.5 million and prospective 1947-48 production of 25.7 million. The total supply last year was 45.6 million. World consumption in 1946-47 including over 200,000 bales destroyed exceeded production by about 6.6 million bales, but the decrease in stocks is partly offset by a prospective increase in production of 4.3 million in 1947-48. World production, however, is still considerably below the present rate of consumption.

World cotton production in 1947-48 is tentatively estimated at 25.7 million bales, compared with last year's revised estimate of 21.4 million bales (U.S. running bales and foreign 500-pound equivalent). The United States accounts for 3.2 million of the 4.3 million bales increase, China for 200,000 and the Soviet Union for 150,000. In Brazil, Argentina and Peru, where planting of the 1947-48 crops has just begun, increases totaling 850,000 bales are assumed, based on a possible return to a more normal production level following the exceptionally small crops of the past 3 years.

World stocks on hand as of August 1, 1947, are estimated at 17.5 million bales, compared with 24.2 million, the revised estimate for August 1, 1946. The greatest reduction in stocks was in the United States, from 7,326,000 bales (revised) to 2,521,000. Stocks in India on August 1, 1947, were estimated at 3.2 million bales (500-pound equivalent), compared with 3,600,000 a year ago.[a] Brazil and Egypt are the only major-producing countries where stocks, though reduced sharply, are large, relative to normal prewar holdings. Brazil's stocks were reduced during the year from an estimated 3,200,000 bales to 1,925,000, and Egypt's stocks from 1,785,000 to 1,354,000.

Stocks in most of the importing countries in the world remained roughly equal to those of a year ago. In Italy, however, stocks were increased by 287,000 bales to 688,000 on August 1, 1947. Other exceptions were China with an increase of 260,000 bales to 1,260,000, and France a decrease of 230,000 bales to 653,000. A net increase of about 400,000 bales in stocks is calculated for importing countries as a group.

World exports of cotton in 1946-47 totaled 9.6 million bales, compared with 9.0 million in the preceding year. Exports from Egypt rose by 605,000 bales to 1,465,000 in 1946-47, and Brazil's exports reached an all-time record of 1,658,000 bales, compared with 1,471,000 a year ago. Exports from all other countries were about equal to or below the totals for the previous year, largely as a result of diminished stocks.

The above preliminary statement is based upon returns from the principal cotton producing and consuming countries. Full reports with details by countries will be published on October 13 (world exports), October 27 (acreage and production), and November 10 (stocks).

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[a] The upward revision of the 1946 figure results from the use of calculations based on the Indian Central Cotton Committee statistics instead of Government (production only) and private sources.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C.M. Purves, A.W. Palmer, P.K. Norris, and O.H. Barber.

WORLD APPLE AND PEAR SUMMARY

(Continued from Page 209)

apples and processed apples equivalent to another half million. With a record crop in prospect in the British Isles and their dollar exchange very short, the United Kingdom market is now closed to United States apples and relatively few Canadian apples can be expected to move to the United Kingdom.

Of the European countries, Sweden alone seems to offer a substantial outlet. A quota for United States apples equivalent to 150 percent of the 1946 calendar year imports was set up for the 18 month period, January 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948, but delay by the Swedish Government in starting the issuance of import permits to Swedish importers and competition from the Western European crops are factors which are difficult to evaluate at this time from the viewpoint of their probable effect upon the total of United States exports during the current season. About 450,000 bushels of this quota were filled between January 1 and June 30, 1947, leaving an estimated 650,000 bushels eligible to entry into Sweden between July 1, 1947 and June 30, 1948.

Loss of the United Kingdom market, a possible reduction in the exports to Sweden, and tightening of import controls in Latin American countries, which imported about 900,000 bushels of apples during the 1946-47 season, indicate a substantial reduction in export outlets this season as compared with 1946-47. In addition, Canada, which exported only 1 million bushels of apples to the United States (60 percent as packed fresh apples) during the 1946-47 season and in turn provided a market for 400,000 bushels of United States apples, probably will fulfill her announced plan to export to the United States about 2 million bushels of packed apples for fresh consumption. It is doubted, however, that Canadian exports of apples for processing to the United States will exceed 250,000 bushels. The announcement of a support program for Nova Scotian apples by the Canadian Government would seem to eliminate that Province as a source of substantial quantities of apples for processing. Practically all of the imports of packed Canadian apples are expected to be boxed apples from British Columbia.

Pears

North America-. The North American pear crop is expected to total slightly more than 36 million bushels, about the same as last season's crop and about 20 percent more than the prewar (1935-39) average of nearly 30 million. The United States crop this season is expected to be about 34.6 million bushels, 96 percent of the North American total. The Canadian crop, estimated at about 0.9 million, is slightly below last season's. The Mexican crop, expected to total 0.7 million bushel, is more than double the prewar average and slightly larger than that of last season showing the continuing upward trend in production in that country.

Europe.- The 1947-48 crop in specified European countries is expected to total 86 million bushels as compared with 80 million bushels last season and a prewar average of 83 million. As in the case of apples, record pear crops are in prospect in Belgium and the Netherlands. The current season's crop of dessert varieties in the United Kingdom is exceeded only by the record production of nearly 2 million bushels in 1942. A substantial increase over last season's crop is expected in Germany and in the table pear crop in France. Production in Switzerland and in Austria is well below that of last season.

Asia-. The 1947-48 pear crop in Asiatic countries is estimated at 6.4 million bushels, 25 percent below the 1946-47 crop of 8.5 million bushels. Spring frosts cut the crop in Turkey to less than half of last season's production and the Japanese crop is expected to be slightly less than the preceding one.

Southern Hemisphere-. Orchards of the Southern Hemisphere countries should produce a crop somewhat larger than last season's total, particularly those in Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand. The 1946-47 fruit crops in those three countries were reduced substantially by spring frosts. Production in South Africa and Chile should slightly exceed the 1946-47 crop.

Outlook for U.S. Trade-. Domestic exports of pears during the 1946-47 season totaled 2.2 million bushels, nearly 85 percent of the 1935-39 average of 2.6 million bushels. As in the case of apple exports, the United Kingdom was the leading importer. Beginning in October 1946, the British Government allowed pears to be imported under open general license with the result that 875,000 bushels of United States pears were marketed in that country during the season. The licensing provisions were revoked on July 1 and a second order issued on September 11, 1947 continues the ban against imports from other than war devastated countries. Exceptions to the above orders allow the issuance of permits to British importers to cover quantities equivalent in value to dollar deposits made in connection with existing contracts executed prior to July 1. The volume of such exports is unknown at this time.

Exports to Canada totaled 564,000 bushels, Sweden 346,000, Brazil 148,000, Cuba 56,000, Mexico 38,000, Belgium and Luxembourg 28,000 and to the Netherlands, Venezuela and Egypt 18,000 bushels, each. In Sweden, the situation with respect to pears this season is similar to that with apples, a quota having been set up on the basis of 150 percent of imports for the calendar year 1946. Belgium and the Netherlands are harvesting record crops this season and dollar shortages in Latin American countries have resulted in a tightening of import controls.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural prospects approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crops and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C.M. Purves, Gustave Burmeister, Monroe McCown, Lois Bacon, Ruth Tucker, and M. Golden.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

SWEDEN'S TOBACCO IMPORTS AND CONSUMPTION RISE

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco into Sweden during the first 5 months of 1947 totaled 3.3 million pounds, compared with 3.2 million during the corresponding period of 1946. Imports of tobacco products this year were 1.8 million pounds, against 1.2 million a year ago.

No breakdown by country of origin is available as yet, but reports indicate that the United States was the principal supplier this year. The Monopoly's stocks of tobacco as of August 1 were reported to be sufficient for three years' consumption. Under the circumstances, and the growing shortage of dollars, imports probably will be curtailed.

Monopoly figures indicate a sharp upward trend in tobacco consumption since the end of the war. Cigarette sales for the first 5 months of this year were about 50 percent above those for the corresponding period in 1945. For the full year 1946, cigarette consumption totaled 3.1 billion pieces, compared with 2.5 billion in 1945, and only 2.1 billion in 1938. Shortages of manpower, machinery and factory space appear to be hampering the Monopoly's output of cigarettes at present.

NETHERLANDS INDIES TOBACCO EXPORTS EXTREMELY SMALL

Consular information recently received indicates that only 46,000 pounds of tobacco were exported from the Netherlands Indies during the first quarter of 1947. The figure does not include quantities that may have been smuggled from the Islands.

In prewar years, the Indies were extremely important in the world's export trade in leaf tobacco. Exports averaged more than 100 million pounds annually during the period 1935-39. Most of the tobacco was shipped to the auction markets of the Netherlands. Large quantities were re-exported from the mother country to all parts of the world. Unsettled conditions in the Islands have made it difficult to appraise the tobacco situation. Some observers state that it may require several more years for the restoration of the Islands' tobacco trade on a significant basis.

COTTON

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1947	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.........	9-18	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	40.50	33.77
Ashmouni, F.G.F........	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, Good...........	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, F.G.F..........	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good...........	"	"	"	47.50	39.60
Karnak, F.G.F..........	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine...........	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	433.00	16.66
Broach, Fine...........	"	"	"	538.00	20.70
Sind American, Fine....	"	"	"	544.00	20.93
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	630.00	24.24
Kampala, East African..	"	"	"	920.00	35.39
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B.................	9-20	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	2590.00	34.98
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5........	"	101.4 lbs.	Sol	159.00	24.12
Pima, Type 1...........	"	"	"	192.00	29.13
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5...........	9-19	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	110.00	18.10
Sertao, Type 5.........	"	"	"	120.00	19.74
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5......	"	"	"	157.50	25.91
Torreon		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16".......	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	131.25	26.63

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

COSTA RICAN CACAO OUTLOOK FAVORABLE

Costa Rica's 1947 exportable output of cacao beans now is estimated at 9 million pounds. Weather conditions have been favorable for the fall crop, harvesting of which begins in October. The spring crop, normally harvested in April and May, was about a month late. The bulk of this crop, therefore, will be exported during the July-September quarter.

During the first half of 1947, Costa Rica exported 3.2 million pounds of cacao, of which 1.6 million pounds were shipped to Colombia, 364,000 pounds to the United States, 643,000 pounds to other Western Hemisphere countries, and 578,000 pounds to Europe. Five million pounds were exported during the first six months of 1946, and 8.8 million pounds during the entire year.

DOMINICAN CACAO MID-CROP LOWER

The Commission for the Defense of Coffee and Cacao forecasts the Dominican Republic's winter cacao harvest (mid-crop) beginning in October at 6.6 million pounds, or about 50 percent less than last year's winter crop. Lack of rainfall the last 6 months in the Central Cibao Valley, where most of the cacao is produced, accounts for the drop in production. If weather conditions are favorable in September, however, a somewhat larger winter crop may result.

FATS AND OILS

ARGENTINE FLAXSEED ACREAGE AGAIN BELOW AVERAGE

Argentina's first official forecast for 1947-48 flaxseed is 4.2 million acres, 16 percent smaller than the corresponding estimate for last season. The limited plantings are attributed to: price dissatisfaction, fear of damage from grasshoppers, and the desire of growers to turn to livestock production where labor problems and price interference are less serious or to minor crops for which there are fewer regulations.

The flaxseed supply (including new crop and commercial stocks) on January 1, 1947, was approximately 53 million bushels. Of this quantity 32 million were expected to be crushed during the year, producing about 275,000 short tons of linseed oil. Stocks of linseed oil were more than 25,000 tons on January 1.

Domestic utilization of oil in the manufacture of paints and varnishes both for domestic consumption and export has apparently increased during the current year. January-June exports of oil totaled 123,000 tons compared with 75,000 in the same months of 1946. Total shipments in 1947 may reach 250,000 tons.

SOUTH AFRICA HARVESTS RECORD PEANUT CROP

This season the Union of South Africa harvested a record peanut crop of 35,000 short tons (in the shell) from approximately 100,000 acres. This is 180 percent greater than last year's crop and 225 percent greater than the 1939-43 average.

Planting and harvesting extend. from the middle of October to the end of May, and marketing, from February to September. Production is centered principally in the Springbok Flats in Northern Transvaal, in northern Natal, and in the northwestern part of Orange Free State. During the past season, weather conditions have been favorable for peanut production in the Orange Free State and in Natal, but drought conditions prevailed in the northern Transvaal and reduced the crop in that area.

By the end of August the Union was to have supplied the British Government with 3,300 tons of peanuts for seed purposes for the large East African agricultural development program. The British will replace this quantity with Nigerian supplies which are not suitable for seed in East Africa. From the 35,000-ton crop, 26,000 tons have been delivered to cooperative depots in various parts of the country. Storage sheds are full, and bagged peanuts have had to be stored in the open at Nylstroom, Transvaal. Plants worked to capacity to process peanuts before the first rains came.

The basic price to the producer for the 1946-47 season was 35 shillings per 100 pounds ($7.00) for unshelled nuts, with a sound kernel content of 60 percent. The price was increased at the rate of 2 shillings, 6 pence ($.50) per 100 pounds for each 5 percent of sound kernel content improvement in grade above the basic 60 percent. The oil mills pay £61 ($244) per short ton for shelled peanuts delivered on rail.

Peanut oil is used for cooking purposes, and hardened fats, for shortening. The present prices of 25 shillings per imperial gallon ($.56 per pound) for cooking oils and 2 shillings, 9 pence ($.55) to 3 shillings ($.60) per pound for hardened fats are finding slow sale, especially in the low income urban areas. It is possible that the government may establish a lower price to the crusher so that cooking oils and hardened fats may be available to those with extremely low purchasing power.

Plans for the 1947-48 peanut crop, possibly double this year's, are now in progress. The Food Control Organization, in cooperation with the South African Department of Agriculture, set aside 3,000 tons of shelled peanuts for 1947-48 plantings, the largest supply of seed available on record. Authorities are of the opinion that under normal conditions this should produce a crop of 75,000 tons.

Plans are underway which will enable the producer to market next year's crop more efficiently. The Department of Agriculture is assisting producers to secure shelling machines, which should enable farmers to effect a considerable savings in cost of storage, transportation and bags.

If prices remain attractive, there is little doubt that farmers will continue to produce peanuts. The peanut plant is more drought resistant than corn, and there is a trend toward the replacement of corn with peanuts in deficit rainfall areas. Another factor encouraging the rapid development and production of peanuts in South Africa is the extending to producers of government credit facilities for seed. Loans are made which range in value from £12 ($48) to £72 ($288) at an interest rate of 4 percent and involve from 400 to 2400 pounds of shelled peanuts.

INDIA'S CASTOR-BEAN CROP EXCEEDS AVERAGE

India's 1947 castor-bean production is 136,000 short tons from 1.3 million acres, compared with last year's revised estimate of 138,000 tons and 1.4 million acres. While both crops are much smaller than in the three preceding years, they exceed the prewar average by a slight margin.

Exports of castor-beans were prohibited in July 1946 with the exception of small quantities by special permit. There were no shipments during the first quarter of this year; however, the government announced plans to grant export licenses for about 9,000 tons of beans in 1947. Although there has been no restriction on the shipment of castor oil, the quantity leaving the country so far this season has been small.

HUNGARY PRODUCES MORE SOYBEANS

Hungary's 1947 soybean crop is estimated at 88,000 bushels from approximately 8,000 acres, compared with 55,000 bushels from 5,400 acres in 1946. Although this crop represents a 60 percent increase over last year's, .it is considerably smaller than the prewar output of 125,000 bushels and less than half the 194,000 record output of 1940. Soybeans are used chiefly for domestic oil production, and no surplus is available for export.

TURKEY'S OILSEED OUTPUT INCREASES

Turkey's hempseed, sesame seed, and poppy seed crops for 1947 total 50,000 short tons, compared with the prewar output of 45,000 tons. The hempseed crop of 3,400 tons represents a 30 percent increase over the 1935-39 average; the sesame output of 36,500 tons, a 15 percent increase; but the poppy seed harvest of 10,200 tons an 8 percent decrease. However, about 11,000 tons of poppy seed, including stocks on hand, are expected to be available for exportation.